

Spring 2007

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Urban Projects

From the Morgantown Field Office, USDA Forest Service
Serving the Mid-Atlantic States

MAYORS EMBRACE TREE CANOPY GOAL SETTING IN 2007



Percentage of tree cover in neighborhoods can have a great impact on temperature, water quality, and the air we breathe.

This year marked a historic milestone for urban and community forestry as mayors embraced tree canopy goal setting and planted trees to meet those goals. Historically, mayors have taken a strong leadership role in charting courses of sustainable growth for cities. Trees and forests are apparently becoming a critical component of that vision. Highlights of tree canopy goal setting in the Northeastern Area this year include the following:

Boston

Mayor Thomas Menino embraced Arbor Day this spring by planting 200 trees throughout Boston. He then announced a larger tree-planting initiative designed to offset carbon emissions from the city. The effort is directly related to the completion of a State-funded citywide tree inventory sponsored by the Boston Urban Forestry Coalition and spearheaded by the Urban Ecology Institute.

Chicago

In celebration of Arbor Day this year, Mayor Richard Daley, in partnership with The Home Depot, Inc., and many others, planted trees and participated in a multiweek event to educate 5,000 Chicago public school children about the benefits and importance of trees and urban greening.

New York City

On Earth Day, Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced his commitment to plant 1 million trees over the next 10 years to reduce air pollution, cool temperatures, and improve the city's sustainability. The support increased the city's annual urban forestry budget from \$15 million to \$50 million.

NEWS FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

NACD SUPPORTS ROLE OF URBAN FORESTRY IN OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION

The U.S. Forest Service is currently developing an Open Space Conservation Strategy and Implementation Plan. The new strategy will provide actions and policy recommendations to conserve open space, with an emphasis on partnerships and collaborative approaches. Last November, the Forest Service requested public comments on how the agency can protect against loss of open space, assist landowners in sustainable management practice development, and mitigate development. NACD responded and provided comments on an open space conservation plan that included the following:

“The Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry [Program] should be strengthened to help mitigate the impacts of existing and new developments. Conservation districts, which historically have been active in soil and water conservation on farmlands and forests, are increasingly involved in resource management issues in urban and suburban areas. Partnerships should be encouraged to assist in the delivery of technical assistance to urban, small-acreage landowners.”

The Draft Forest Service Open Space Conservation Strategy is now available for public review and comment. A Federal Register Notice inviting public comment was published on June 22nd, and comments will be accepted until July 23rd. The Federal Register Notice is attached and both documents can be viewed at the Open Space Conservation Website: www.fs.fed.us/openspace

SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS (SMA) EFFORTS COMMENDED BY USDA FOREST SERVICE

by Phillip Rodbell

The Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) has made significant progress in increasing communications, including Web site updates and the City Trees magazine. The SMA also created and duplicated the successful “Tree Academies” across the U.S., which were held in Morgantown, WV; Columbus, OH; Phoenix, AZ; Plainfield, NJ; and Nashville, TN; and attracted 135 new members. The organization developed tighter bonds with the International Society of Arboriculture and its chapters through this effort. They also evaluated and repackaged their Municipal Accreditation program with the help of TCIA, and successfully got the program linked to Tree City USA as a 10-point growth award. In addition, the

group conducted a comprehensive survey of municipal arborists nationwide (members and nonmembers), which will guide their future business plan for recruitment, retention, fundraising, and education.

Key findings from the survey (469 responses = 59 percent rate of return) include the following:

- 43 percent were 41-50 years old
- 30 percent were in the Midwest
- The primary duty of 75 percent of the respondents was public tree management
- 75 percent managed 10,000 to 249,000 trees each
- 40 percent were in Public Works in the South and Midwest
- 65 percent indicated that they search the Internet daily or weekly
- 80 percent participate in regional and State conferences
- 80 percent reported not attending meetings in the last 2 years because of travel costs
- 70 percent hold a bachelor’s degree or higher
- 90 percent are certified arborists
- Roughly 50 percent were in Park and Recreation Departments (especially in the Northeast)

To learn more, visit the SMA Web site at <http://www.urban-forestry.com>.

KEITH CLINE RECEIVES MAC ISA AWARD OF MERIT

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture presented an Award of Merit to Keith Cline, Forest Service Washington Office Urban Forester, in recognition of outstanding or meritorious service in advancing the principles, ideals, and practices of arboriculture. “Keith has done a tremendous amount of work in advancing the field of professional arboriculture as it relates to the U.S. Forest Service’s program that is active in all 50 States and 9 entities in the U.S. He has heightened awareness about the importance of professional arboriculture, and most importantly, is working to promote why professional arboriculture [and] urban forestry [are] so important within the Forest Service.” Keith can be reached at kcline@fs.fed.us. Congratulations to Keith. 🌲

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

RODBELL WORKS WITH EPA OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

Phil Rodbell, Forester with the U.S. Forest Service, spent 4 months with the Environmental Protection Agency, R3 Office of Environmental Innovation. Rodbell invested valuable time building working relationships with staff members of the EPA as well as the Regional Counsel and the Chesapeake Bay Program. While at the EPA, Rodbell took full advantage of the opportunity to work with the Philadelphia City Manager's Office, Fairmount Park, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society to support their GreenPlan effort and host a regional forum on shade tree health and sustainability that attracted 60 stakeholders. Rodbell shared information he gathered during his tenure with State urban and community forestry coordinators at their recent annual meeting.

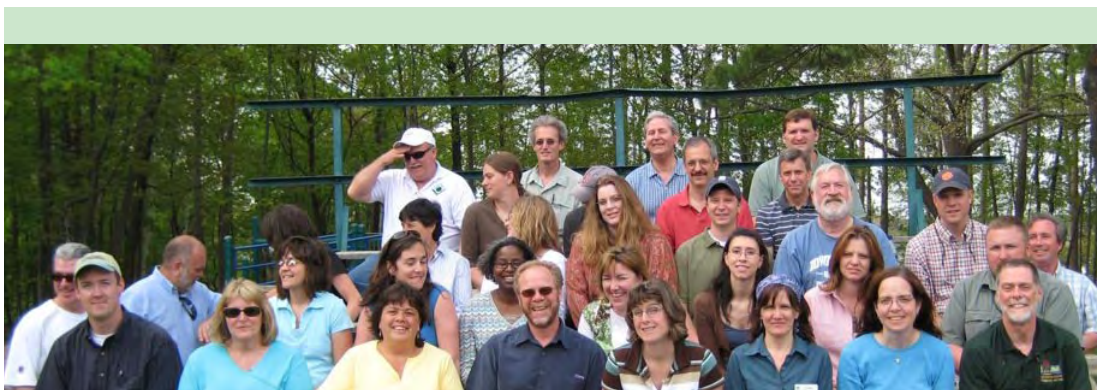
For more information, contact Rodbell at prodbell@fs.fed.us and visit <http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes/>.

LISA BURBAN RECEIVES 2006 MINNESOTA ISA PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Paul Buck, President of the Minnesota Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, presented the Society's 2006 President's Award to Lisa Burban last October at its annual conference. Burban was recognized

for her long-standing support and volunteer service to the mission of the Minnesota Society of Arboriculture. Burban has long been a great resource to the Forest Service's urban forestry program. Her facilitation skills are in high demand across the country, and she still finds time to provide assistance to state and local efforts. Congratulations! 🌲



State urban and community forestry partners and Forest Service staff enjoyed two productive working days at the annual Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters, Urban and Community Forestry Committee Meeting. The New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands hosted the meeting this May at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth, NH. The theme was Expanding Your Capacity. Special thanks go to A.J. Dupere (new Chairman), Drew Todd, and Randy Cook, State Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators in New Hampshire, Ohio, and Iowa, respectively, for all their work. We were pleased to have Vermont State Forester Steve Sinclair representing our Northeastern Area State Foresters at the meeting.

NEWS FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

DELAWARE

DELAWARE FIRST STATE WITH URBAN FOREST ASSESSMENT

Urban or community forests throughout the United States are being assessed as part of the U.S. Forest Service’s Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (RPA). Delaware is the first State to be assessed and its report is in draft. The template report for Delaware will be used to produce similar reports for other States once it is reviewed and approved.

The report, directed by Dr. David Nowak, USDA Forest Service, presents data at the State, county, subdivision, and community level for a number of attributes, including population, tree canopy cover and stocking, impervious surface cover, potential available growing space, land cover distribution, and urban tree benefits, among others. Managers can use these data to better understand the urban forest resource and establish tree cover goals at multiple scales. This spring, a Forest Service Webcast was presented. If you missed the Webcast and would like to learn more, the presentation can be viewed (complete with audio) at <http://www.unri.org/webcast/webcastarchives.shtml>.

DELAWARE CENTER FOR HORTICULTURE USES NEIGHBORWOODS GRANT FOR FIRST BARE-ROOT TREE PLANTING IN WILMINGTON

The Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) joined nearly 100 volunteers from the Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Club, University of Delaware Energy and Environmental Policy Student Association, Delaware Forest Service, and Home Depot to plant 60 trees and beautify 7 sites in northeast Wilmington on Saturday, March 24. The Home Depot Foundation funded the event through a NeighborWoods grant awarded to the DCH by the Alliance for Community Trees. This was also the largest volunteer-driven urban tree-planting event that the DCH has conducted because bare-root trees were planted. Bare-root trees are less bulky, less expensive, and overall, more practical for use in volunteer planting. They must be transplanted while still dormant and are susceptible to wilting if exposed for any length of time out of the ground. This first bare-root tree planting attempt in Wilmington gave the DCH hope that this method might be a more successful way to green yards and communities, and meet urban tree canopy goals.



Henry Poole (Delaware Forest Service) and a volunteer check the size of their planting hole.



Henry Poole (Delaware Forest Service) explains project details to a planting team.

TREES FOR WILMINGTON COALITION

On April 5, the Wilmington City Council issued a resolution of support that recognized Trees for Wilmington as a coalition of Mayor Baker’s Beautification Commission. Funding for this project has come from a Forest Service cost-share grant recommended by NUCFAC for the Delaware Center for Horticulture, which has overseen the formation of Trees for Wilmington. A variety of public partners, including city residents, nonprofit organizations, local government, and businesses make up the coalition, whose primary goal is to develop and implement a

comprehensive urban forest management plan. The group also seeks to increase awareness among residents and stakeholders of the importance of urban trees, promote tree planting and proper tree care, and work to meet urban tree canopy goals established using Wilmington’s UFORE study. 🌳🌱

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DC URBAN FORESTRY ADMINISTRATION WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



We are pleased to welcome Monica Lear as Deputy Associate Director of the DC Urban Forestry Administration. Monica has a doctorate in plant pathology from Louisiana State University, and B.S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture. She has extensive experience working with urban landscape horticulture and plant pathology in both Louisiana and Virginia. Monica has lived in Washington, DC, for a number of years. We welcome Monica, wish her the best, and look forward to working with her. Monica can be reached at Monica.Lear@dc.gov.

CASEY TREES GREEN BUILD-OUT MODEL WINS ASLA RESEARCH HONOR AWARD

This past April, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) announced the recipients of its 2007 Professional Awards. The jury considered over 500 entries and selected 37 projects to receive awards. The awards will be presented at the ASLA Annual Meeting in San Francisco this October.

The Casey Trees Endowment Fund in Washington, DC,

received the Research Honor Award for its Green Build-out Model: Quantifying Stormwater Benefits of Trees and Greenroofs in Washington, DC, a study funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Green Build-out Model uses the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority’s hydrologic and hydraulic model to estimate the ability of tree cover and greenroofs to reduce stormwater runoff. Findings show potential reductions in stormwater volume of up to 10 percent across the city, with up to 54 percent reductions in individual sewersheds. These results demonstrate how green infrastructure can reduce stormwater in urban settings. As a result, trees and greenroofs will be integral components of the strategy to meet the District’s stormwater management goals. Jury comments by the review committee summarized the value quite well in their review statement, “Water is a global problem and this sets forth a model for cities to prove the benefits of trees and green roofs. It’s so impressive, easily understandable, and clear in its intention. It’s particularly impressive that there were multiple agencies involved. This is much needed and important work!”

To see a full report of the research or the presentation recently delivered at the American Planning Association annual conference in Philadelphia this spring, go to the Casey Build-out Model ASLA Entry Summary at http://www.asla.org/awards/2007/07winners/443_ctef_pv.html. For all ASLA awards, go to <http://asla.org/awards/2007/07winners/#>. The APA Presentation is at http://www.asla.org/awards/2007/07winners/443_ctef_pv.html. 🌳🌱

MARYLAND

EMERALD ASH BORER UPDATE – QUARANTINE AND PLANTING CONTINUE

Since August 2006, Prince George’s County has been under a state-mandated quarantine. Hardwood firewood of any ash species, all ash products, and noncomposted ash chips and bark larger than 1 inch in diameter are subject to the quarantine. This spring, efforts continued in the quarantine area south of the intersection of I-95 and Pennsylvania Avenue. Eradication involves the complete removal and destruction of all ash trees within the designated area. The Plant Protection and Weed Management Section of the Maryland Department of Agriculture is supervising eradication efforts and the Maryland Forest Service is supervising logging operations. Active clearing operations will follow the restrictions provided in the “Prince George’s County, Maryland Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine Fact Sheet,” which can be found at www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/eab/.

On Earth Day this year, Governor O'Malley launched an emerald ash borer replacement program for homeowners as a commitment to the environment and to the residents who have sacrificed their trees to help eradicate the invasive pest. Homeowners can choose among three options to replace their trees: pick up a bare-root tree donated by Angelica Nurseries, receive a 50 percent discount on a tree from one of three nurseries, or use a \$150 voucher through the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Urban Forestry Program. Although the tree removal portion of the effort is now complete, surveillance will continue, and quarantine regulations still apply.

MIKE GALVIN RECEIVES MAC ISA MERIT AWARD

At the fall 2006 MAC-ISA Annual Meeting, out-going President Phil Ross presented chapter awards. The awards are based on nominations from members, with a category for special recognition from the chapter president. Each recipient received a personalized, framed print with an arboriculture theme. Mike Galvin, urban forestry supervisor for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service, received an Award of Merit recognizing outstanding service in advancing the principles, ideals, and practices of arboriculture. Mike was recognized for his active involvement in the chapter over several years and for his involvement in promoting a process that helps communities establish urban tree-canopy targets. He has been spearheading this effort by encouraging Baltimore to establish tree-cover goals. His work has grabbed the attention of urban foresters across the country, who are using it as a model for their localities. Congratulations Mike!

MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY GROWING HOME CAMPAIGN

The Baltimore County Growing Home Campaign is back again in 2007. The campaign's goal is to replenish the county's tree canopy by encouraging homeowners to plant 10,000 trees over the next few years to meet the recommended tree canopy cover of 25 to 40 percent for urban areas. Tree canopy coverage in the heavily developed portion of Baltimore County is less than 20 percent.

Growing Home features a \$10 coupon, which can be used toward the purchase of a tree at participating nurseries. There is no limit on the number of trees a homeowner can purchase. The coupon includes a space where customers provide information about the type of tree they purchased and where the tree will be planted. Citizens who used the coupons spent approximately \$72,000 on trees. If labor

to plant the trees is included, at a value of \$20 per tree, the total value of citizen contributions equals \$104,000. The county and its partners invested approximately \$16,000 to cover the \$10 per coupon discount, bringing the estimated total impact to \$120,000. To learn more, see www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/trees.

Adapted from an article by Lara Lutz

MARYLAND 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

HB 1429 - Reforestation - Replacing Trees Destroyed by Pest Treatments

Bill HB 1429 allows the use of capital from the Restoration Fund in the Department of Natural Resources to mitigate losses incurred by property owners whose trees were destroyed in the emerald ash borer containment effort. It alters the purpose of the fund to include planting trees on private property to replace trees that were destroyed by a treatment to control plant pests under specified circumstances. It also allows the use of the Restoration Fund to replace trees destroyed because of a quarantine imposed by the Secretary of Agriculture. For more information, go to <http://mlis.state.md.us/2007rs/bill-file/hb1429.htm>.

URBAN FORESTS INCLUDED IN NEW CHESAPEAKE STRATEGIES

The Chesapeake Bay Program recently released a new directive on forests supported by the publication "The State of Chesapeake Forests" that will guide bay-related forest policy for the near future. Urban forests are featured throughout the document. Strategies for forest land protection, restoration, and stewardship include managing forests to enhance ecological and public benefits, and expanding the existing urban tree canopy to improve the environment, public health, and quality of life. The report is available at <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/fwg.htm>. Click on the Current Projects and Info tab at the top of the page, then click on State of Chesapeake Forests.

NEW MARYLAND TREE EXPERT LAW REGULATIONS ADOPTED

New regulations of the Maryland Tree Expert law were adopted on January 13, 2007, and went into effect February 12, 2007. To view the new regulations, see the February 12, 2007, edition of the Maryland Register at <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/MDRegister/>. 🌳

NEW JERSEY:

NEW JERSEY ESTABLISHES FOREST HEALTH COUNCIL

On December 14, 2006, the New Jersey Senate unanimously approved Senate Bill No. 839 to establish a forest health council within the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The bill was then approved by the New Jersey Assembly. The Council will act in an advisory capacity to the DEP, through the Division of Parks and Forestry, in making public policy to minimize the threat of forest health issues to New Jersey's forests and community trees. The council will study and track the eastward spread of sudden oak death, the impact of bacterial leaf scorch, and other potential health issues. They will also evaluate New Jersey's susceptibility to other forest health issues, make recommendations to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and other State agencies, and conduct research and public outreach and education. For the full text of the bill, see: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2006/Bills/S1000/839_R1.PDF.

JOYCE KILMER AWARD PRESENTED TO ASHBURY PARK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SHADE TREE COMMISSION

This Arbor Day, the Ashbury Park Environmental and Shade Tree Commission was presented with New Jersey's most prestigious award for outstanding contributions to community forestry. The award is named after Sergeant Joyce Kilmer, a New Jersey native, renowned poet, and World War I hero who wrote the poem that begins "I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree...". An engraved plaque was presented for the commission's tireless efforts and "can do" spirit of community activism through reaching out to neighborhoods and improving the quality of life in its community. This year, New Jersey celebrated its 58th Arbor Day with the theme, "Celebrating Community Forestry at Its Best" by planting trees and recognizing volunteers, professionals, and award recipients.

URBAN TREE PEST UPDATE IN NEW JERSEY

Like many other States, New Jersey struggles with urban tree pests. New Jersey has more than 1 million acres of urban trees and is the most densely populated and urbanized State in the Nation, which makes the management of its urban forest resources vital to quality of life. Mike D'Errico recently highlighted the urban tree pest situation across the State.

- The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) has necessitated the removal of over 20,000 public and private trees from Jersey City, Rahway, Woodbridge, and Carteret. The removal of infested trees, establishment of quarantine areas, and ongoing intensive monitoring are the best defense. In Jersey City, 47 percent of the tree population consists of species susceptible to ALB.
- Bacterial leaf scorch is a bacterial infection that has spread into the red oak and pin oak populations. The New Jersey Community Forestry Program has partnered with the Forest Service and the Bartlett Tree Expert Company in ongoing research to determine the best approach to fighting this disease that threatens the health and safety of New Jersey's urban forest. There have been significant and positive results from early field trials, but much more research is needed.
- The hemlock woolly adelgid, gypsy moth, and southern pine bark beetle add to the threats faced in communities and other forested lands.
- Gouty oak gall is now being documented in several parts of the State.
- Sudden oak death has been documented in several species of trees and shrubs.
- Although emerald ash borer has not yet been identified in New Jersey, monitoring continues.

NJ GREEN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM SETS INNOVATIVE PROCESS FOR COMMUNITY FORESTRY MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Since passage of the New Jersey Shade Tree and Community Forestry Assistance Act in 1996, the New Jersey Community Forestry Program's Green Community Grants have been awarded to communities to develop comprehensive community forestry management plans.

The Act allows New Jersey communities to obtain liability protection for their shade tree programs under the New Jersey Tort Claims Act. However, in order to qualify for this protection, shade tree commissioners or other community representatives must develop a community forestry plan for their community as well as attend the State's training skills and accreditation program. This grant allows a county or municipality to hire an outside firm to help produce a community forestry management plan.

Applicants receive grants through a lottery system and are then ranked and placed on a list. Funding is awarded when it becomes available, which continues until all applicants have been funded. The only eligibility requirement is a completed application and intent to oversee the completion of the management plan. As of December 2006, 247 municipalities have or are working on Community Forestry Management Plans—186 Green Communities Grant recipients have submitted management plans (of which 162 have been approved) and an additional 78 are in various phases of development.

To learn more about New Jersey’s Community Forestry Program, green community grants, and criteria for writing community tree management plans, go to <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/community/grants.html>.

Thomas D. Doty, Forester for the Township of Millburn, NJ, and New Jersey Certified Tree Expert, Arborist, and accredited Forester, shared some photos from the 2-day New Jersey Youth Corps Academy of Urban and Community Forestry held at a Rutgers Cooperative Extension facility this past May. Dave Johnson of the New Jersey Forest Service and Consultant Forester Joe Bruschetta demonstrated proper pruning techniques and covered tree identification with participants. A New Jersey Youth Corps member also climbed a tree for the first time. Thanks, Tom!



Dave Johnson and Joe Bruschetta take part in a New Jersey Youth Corps Academy, funded partially with a grant from the U.S. Forest Service.



A New Jersey Youth Corps member climbs a tree.

NEW ENDOWED FACULTY SCHOLAR FUND IN URBAN FORESTRY AT COOK COLLEGE

A ceremony late last fall marked the activation of the John and Eleanor Kuser Endowed Faculty Scholar Fund in Urban and Community Forestry at Cook College. Jason Grabosky, who was named Faculty Scholar in Urban Forestry in 2003 when the endowment was established, now is steward of the fund. Dr. Grabosky is tasked with expanding the urban forestry program at Cook College into the leading program of its kind. He can use these funds to achieve the long-term goals of the Urban Forestry Program at Rutgers.

The Faculty Scholar Fund was established in 2003 with an endowment gift of \$425,000 from Dr. John and Eleanor Kuser. In 2003, the Kusers also established a John E. and Eleanor W. Kuser Endowed Chair in Urban Forestry. John Kuser is a retired associate professor of forestry who taught at Cook College for 21 years. He is a nationally recognized expert in forest ecology, urban forestry, and cedar swamp restoration. 🌲🌲

OHIO

OHIO REMAINS FIRST IN TREE CITY USA RECORDS

Ohio still leads the Nation with the most Tree City USA communities (249), and has maintained this prestigious position for 26 years. Last year, Ohio communities planted more than 35,000 trees, pruned more than 111,000 trees, and volunteered 48,000 hours of donated services in caring for their urban forests. Overall, more than \$36 million was invested in tree management and care. With emerald ash borer threatening the State, it is very important that communities embrace the Tree City USA standard. Participating communities must meet a list of criteria, including establishing a tree board, enacting an ordinance, funding an urban forestry program with at least \$2 per capita, and celebrating Arbor Day. The Tree City USA Program, created in 1976, is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities, and National Association of State Foresters.

POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF EMERALD ASH BORER ON OHIO COMMUNITIES

A survey of 200 communities was conducted to provide baseline data on ash density within Ohio communities. Sixty-seven communities responded, including the five largest cities in Ohio. Landscape value losses for ash trees

were estimated to be between \$800 million (median) and \$3.4 billion (mean) assuming the complete loss of ash resulting from the emerald ash borer. Tree removal costs ranged from \$700 million to \$2.9 billion based on reported medians and means, respectively. Tree replacement costs in Ohio communities, including streets, parks, and private properties, ranged from \$0.3 to \$1.3 billion. Total losses for Ohio communities were estimated to range from \$1.8 to \$7.6 billion. The potential total costs in Ohio were estimated to be between \$157,000 and \$665,000 per 1,000 residents. Communities can use these figures to begin developing contingency plans. For the complete article, see *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry* 2007, 33(1):48-54. 🌳●

PENNSYLVANIA

GREEN PLAN PHILADELPHIA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FORUM

This winter, the city of Philadelphia hosted the GreenPlan Philadelphia Forum on Shade Tree Health and Sustainability. The forum included presentations and breakout sessions highlighting existing and potential policies and regulations, operational practices, and education and stewardship activities regarding shade trees in the city. GreenPlan Philadelphia is a city sponsored and managed partnership to develop a comprehensive plan for effective management of existing and future open space in Philadelphia. The plan is groundbreaking because it involves an unprecedented partnership of 14 city departments and agencies, State and Federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations. The goal is to complete the plan in fall 2007.

A key GreenPlan Philadelphia objective is to make sure that the plan reflects the desires of citizens. The city collaborated with the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) to conduct a citywide dialogue about open space issues during fall 2006. Tree canopy health and sustainability issues were consistently raised during the meetings. In response, the city asked the PHS to help organize a forum for government representatives, nonprofit groups, industry experts, and concerned citizens. For more information about the scope and objectives of the plan, see www.greenplanphiladelphia.com.

UPDATE ON URBAN FORESTRY IN PITTSBURGH'S INVENTORY, MANAGEMENT, AND STRATUM EFFORTS

In 2005, Pittsburgh completed its first street tree inventory with funding from the Pennsylvania UCF Council. The

inventory documented 31,524 city trees with an estimated value of \$52 million. Of this total, over 1,000 trees were noted as being in critical condition, and 6,590 trees were in poor condition. Pittsburgh's urban forest composition boasts 134 species. Red maple, callery pear, and little-leaf linden each make up 10 percent. Fifteen percent of the trees are Norway maple and 8 percent are London plane trees.

The inventory has been a catalyst for change in the Steel City. Friends of Pittsburgh Urban Forest received a grant in 2005 from the Heinz Foundation to implement the management plan, which resulted in the removal of almost all Priority 1 risk trees throughout the city. They also received a grant that enabled them to expand the popular TreeTenders program to Pittsburgh and to hire an executive director. In addition, Davey Resource Group recently completed a STRATUM analysis using the inventory, and the report is expected to be released soon.

The Society of American Foresters offered a tour of Pittsburgh's urban forest during their national conference last fall. One aspect of the tour included demonstrations of creative street design and planting along the downtown Grant Street corridor.

Progress is not possible without collaboration. Thanks go to the city administration; the Pennsylvania UCF Council and Pennsylvania DCNR for their support; City Forester David Jahn; Diana Ames for her leadership with the Shade Tree Commission and grant writing; and Mark Remcheck, PSU Extension Forester, for his directed technical assistance.

EPA PROMOTES GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WATER QUALITY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency signed a national "statement of intent" in Pittsburgh on April 19 to formalize an ongoing collaborative effort among water treatment and environmental organizations to promote and use "green infrastructure" initiatives. The initiatives are expected to reduce the need for new and expensive storm sewer construction or expanding existing construction. The Nine Mile Run Conservancy's rain barrel program in several communities and the green roofs of Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Pittsburgh, are working examples of how to reduce storm runoff. Pittsburgh was selected as the kickoff for the Federal partnership because it has more sewer discharges or "outfalls" than anywhere else in the Nation. There are 755 combined sewer outfalls into the rivers and creeks in the 11-county region, more than in all but two States.

Adapted from an article in the Pittsburgh Gazette

PSU RESEARCHERS SEE POTENTIAL FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF TREE-OF-HEAVEN

Dr. Don Davis and Mark Schall of the Pennsylvania State University recently released initial findings relating to their study entitled, "Potential for Biological Control of Tree-of-Heaven: Field Surveys, Greenhouse Studies, and Field Inoculations." The research focuses on isolating and identifying the causal agent(s) responsible for the observed decline of *Ailanthus altissima* in areas of south-central Pennsylvania. This research could lead to effective biological control of this widespread non-native invasive species. Natural resource professionals are encouraged to be vigilant in recognizing the symptoms associated with this decline. Foliar symptoms include wilt, chlorosis, necrosis, and premature leaf drop. The xylem of infected trees may appear discolored, stained, or streaked (orange-brown) when compared to the normal creamy white color of healthy tissue. Additional symptoms include dieback, stunted growth, and death. The researchers are very interested in identifying additional study areas.

PHILADELPHIA CITY HARVEST ENTERS ITS SECOND YEAR

The partnership between Philadelphia Green, the Self Help and Resource Exchange (SHARE), community gardeners, and the Philadelphia Prison System, now in its second year, is continuing to serve the city of Philadelphia by providing fresh produce to those in need, while providing inmates with useful skills when they reenter society. SHARE efforts were made possible by a grant from the Albert M. Greenfield Foundation. Inmates grow seedlings for community gardeners who in turn grow the vegetables for food cupboards. So far 30 inmates have worked in the Prison System's newly refurbished "Roots to Reentry" garden, and 21 community gardens have designated space for the resulting seedlings to ripen to maturity. To date more than 6,200 pounds of food have been harvested and distributed to 19 area food cupboards through SHARE. For more information, visit www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalso-ciety.org.

WEST VIRGINIA

WEST VIRGINIA UCF COUNCIL PROMOTES VOLUNTEERISM THROUGH EXAMPLE

Each year, the West Virginia Urban and Community Forestry Council chooses a planting site as part of the Mountaineer Treeways program. This year, council

members planted 10 balled and burlapped trees, and the West Virginia Division of Forestry donated a sign designating the planting as part of the Mountaineer Treeways program. Council members that provided a helping hand with the tree planting included Bob Hannah, Jennifer Brashears, Andy Sheetz, and Juergen Wildmann of the West Virginia Division of Forestry; Dan Brown from West Virginia University; Larry Elliot; Stan Wegeman from American Electric Power; Almeshia Brown from West Virginia State University; and Anne Cumming of the U.S. Forest Service. Based on the photographs, they also thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



The West Virginia Urban and Community Forestry Council planting crew relaxes after planting trees. (Left to right in back: Anne Cumming, Dan Brown, Larry Elliot, Stan Wegeman, Andy Sheetz, Bob Hannah, kneeling; left to right in front: Almeshia Brown, Jennifer Brashears. Note: Almeshia "ditches" her cane to get down and dirty with the mulch!)



Jennifer Brashears heels in a newly planted tree.



PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS COMPLETE UCF ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) has long provided the standard accreditation process for forestry programs that graduate professional foresters. This accreditation program provides a rigorous education in traditional forestry, but has struggled to meet the needs of students who wish to pursue academic studies in urban forestry and arboriculture. During the past year, the SAF Committee on Accreditation developed Urban Forestry Accreditation Standards, the first accreditation program outside the traditional forest-management standard. The SAF Council preliminarily approved the new standard in December. Full approval and implementation should occur in 2007.

PUBLIC FORUM ON CATASTROPHIC STORMS AND URBAN FORESTS

The National Urban & Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) hosted a public forum in Biloxi, MS, on June 6, 2007. “We wanted to hear directly from people and communities where urban forests have been hit hardest by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf region, ice storms in the Midwest, tornados, and other devastating storm events,” said Joe Wilson, Council Chair. “NUCFAC is using this public input to develop a recommendation to the Secretary of Agriculture to help address this national issue.”

NUCFAC is providing several ways for the public to offer their testimony by simply registering on the NUCFAC Web site. Onsite presentations the day of the forum ranged in length from 5 to 15 minutes and could be viewed in person or broadcasted from a remote site via Webcasting. Those who were unable to view either live or recorded presentations can submit their comments in written form or send them via Fax or e-mail until August 1, 2007. All testimony will be recorded, compiled, and tabulated into a final report as part of NUCFAC’s formal recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture. For more information on the public forum or how to give testimony, visit the NUCFAC Web site at www.treelink.org/nucfac.

STUDENTS LEARN GIS AND CITYGREEN

A partnership between American Forests and the Casey Trees Endowment Fund enables students to utilize GIS and CITYgreen for projects in their own communities. The project—the GreenTech Education Program—was piloted at five high schools last year. Students engage in

work typically done by urban foresters, such as assessing current urban forestry conditions and modeling the potential effects of tree removals and plantings. They then apply their findings to develop and implement a planting plan for their schoolyard. The experience helps students learn many new skills, including tree identification, tree measurement, landscape design, tree planting, tree maintenance, and valuable skills utilizing new technologies. For more information, see www.caseytrees.org/programs/greentech.html.

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION OFFERS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF GLOBAL WARMING

The National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) recently released updates to the 1990 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map for locations in the U.S. The USDA map was based on the average annual low winter temperature from 1974 to 1986, and has become a standard for determining North American plant hardiness. The NADF map was created using the same methods and is based on data from 1990 to 2004. The new map shows significant shifts northward in individual plant hardiness zones. The NADF views the 2006 Hardiness Zone Map as further support for the consensus they see among climate scientists that global warming is underway. The NADF encourages the use of this finding to promote tree planting as a positive action that people can take to reverse the trend towards global warming. For more information on this map, please visit the NADF Web site at www.arborday.org/media/zones.cfm.

URBAN ECOLOGY COLLABORATIVE ANNOUNCES FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The first annual Urban Ecology Collaborative NEURON Conference was held in Boston this past January. The meeting, known as the North East Urban Research Organizational Network (NEURON), focused on urban and community forestry issues and associated research, applications, and education. A central goal of NEURON is to articulate and share research findings, managers’ research and application needs, and education opportunities. The 2-day event was organized to be relatively informal but sufficiently structured to be productive. NEURON is designed to promote increased awareness and collaboration among researchers, managers, and educators within and among States, focusing on, but not restricted to, the Northern Region. The steering committee is actively looking for new member cities and is currently working with Providence, Philadelphia, and Wilmington. Member

cities include Pittsburgh, DC, Baltimore, New York City, New Haven, and Boston. If you are interested in becoming a participating city, please see www.urbanecologycollaborative.org.

PARKS AND PEOPLE WELCOMES DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

The Parks & People Foundation of Baltimore is pleased to welcome Jessica Walbridge, the new Assistant Director of Social Enterprises in the Great Parks, Clean Streams and Green Communities Division. Jessica is responsible for the development of the Parks & People Foundation’s future social enterprise business units that are intended to generate revenues through activities consistent with their mission. Jessica is a graduate of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, with a Master’s of Business Administration in Business and Public Policy. She also received an undergraduate degree from Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Education. Jessica taught for several years before going back to school for her Master’s degree. Most recently, Jessica has been working as a consultant for a number of entities including the Environmental Banc and Exchange, Forest Trends, The International Youth Foundation, Public Citizen, National Parks Conservation Association, U.S. Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, Fundamujer, Rainforest Solutions Project, and Murex Investments. Jessica is currently planning an October wood utilization venture forum. We welcome Jessica and look forward to working with her.

Jessica can be reached at jessica.walbridge@parksandpeople.org

PARKS AND PEOPLE’S SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAMS RECOGNIZED

This spring, the SuperKids Camp, operated by the Parks & People Foundation, received the 2007 Breakthrough Collaborative Excellence in Summer Learning Award from the Center for Summer Learning at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Education. The Excellence in Summer Learning Award recognizes summer programs that demonstrate excellence in accelerating academic achievement and promoting positive development for young people. The award is given annually based on an application and interview process. The Excellence in Summer Learning Award seeks to find and draw national attention to exemplary programs that provide high-quality summer learning experiences for youth in their communities. The Breakthrough Collaborative is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to launch low-income students on the road to college and to inspire their young teachers to pursue careers in education. Every summer over the past 10 years, the Parks & People Foundation has operated SuperKids Camp, a 6-week highly intensive literacy-based program for elementary school students in the Baltimore City public schools. SuperKids Camp combines reading skills improvement with recreation and cultural enrichment activities. Throughout the city, 10 sites collectively serve more than 1,000 children each summer. 🌳🍎

RESEARCH FINDINGS

MITIGATING NEW YORK CITY’S HEAT ISLAND EFFECT WITH URBAN FORESTRY, LIVING ROOFS, AND LIGHT SURFACES: NEW YORK CITY REGIONAL HEAT ISLAND INITIATIVE RESEARCH

New York City, like other large cities, is warmer than surrounding areas due to the urban heat island effect. This occurs when impervious surfaces such as roads and buildings absorb solar radiation and re-radiate it in the form of heat. Although the heat island effect occurs throughout the year, it is of particular concern during the summer months because of higher temperatures that increase electric demand for air conditioning, elevated air pollution levels, and heat stress-related mortality and illness.

This report was prepared by the Columbia University Center for Climatic Systems Research and the NASA/

Goddard Institute for Space Studies in collaboration with Hunter College in the course of performing work for The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority’s (NYSERDA’s) Peak Load Reduction Program and Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation, and Protection Program. Report findings will be incorporated into a study on using an integrated modeling approach to local energy use and environmental planning in Lower Manhattan.

Interesting research highlights include:

- A combined strategy that maximizes the amount of vegetation in New York City by planting trees along streets and in open spaces as well as by building living or green roofs (i.e. ecological infrastructure) offers more potential cooling than any individual strategy.

- Model results indicate that the most effective mitigation strategy per unit area of redevelopment was curbside planting. Although curbside planting had only half the temperature impact, it involved only 6.7 percent of the city's surface area as compared to 48 percent for light surfaces. In addition, even though there was more area available city-wide for open space planting (10.8 percent) compared to curbside planting, the temperature impact of open space planting was less than the temperature impact of curbside planting.
- Of the single strategy scenarios, living roofs produced the greatest temperature impact in all case study areas. Although curbside planting had a smaller impact than living roofs, it required less space.

The full 134-page report can be accessed at www.nyserda.org/programs/environment/emep.asp.

NORTHEAST COMMUNITY TREE GUIDE: BENEFITS, COSTS, STRATEGIC PLANNING

McPherson, E. Gregory; Simpson, James R.; Peper, Paula J.; Gardner, Shelley L.; Vargas, Kelaine E.; Xiao, Qingfu. 2007. Northeast community tree guide: benefits, costs, strategic planning. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-202. Albany, CA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. The report will be available soon. Check <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/> for information on requesting a copy when it is available.

EFFECTS OF STREET TREE SHADE ON ASPHALT CONCRETE PAVEMENT PERFORMANCE

In an attempt to gauge the effect shade trees have on the timing for replacement of city streets, 48 street segments in Modesto, CA, were grouped into 24 high- and low-shade pairs. Field data were used to calculate a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) and a Tree Shade Index (TSI) for each street segment. Based on statistical analysis, increased PCI was associated with greater TSI, which indicated that tree shade was partially responsible for reduced pavement fatigue and cracking. An unshaded street segment required 6 slurry seals over 30 years, while

an identical segment planted with 12 crapemyrtles with crowns measuring 4.4 meters required 4 slurry seals. One segment with 6 Chinese hackberry trees with crowns measuring 13.7 meters required 2.5 slurry seals. The shade from the hackberries was projected to save \$7.13/m² over the 30-year period compared with the unshaded street.

USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station, Center for Urban Forest Research, *Journal of Arboriculture*, Vol. 31, No. 6, Nov 2005. Adapted from: Wisconsin Urban & Community Forests: A Quarterly Newsletter of the Wisconsin DNR Forestry Division

STREET TREE DIVERSITY IN EASTERN NORTH AMERICA AND ITS POTENTIAL FOR TREE LOSS TO EXOTIC BORERS

In light of catastrophic tree losses caused by Dutch elm disease, foresters recommended that the urban forest be diversified. The intent was to create a more sustainable urban forest that would not be decimated by a single pathogen or insect pest. However, recent introductions of deadly borers such as Asian longhorned beetle and emerald ash borer reveal that new introductions can have disastrous consequences for urban forests. An analysis of tree inventories from 12 cities in Eastern North America revealed an overabundance of certain genera of trees such as *Acer* and *Fraxinus*. Introduced pests with broad host ranges such as the Asian longhorned beetle may be capable of killing or forcing intervention on large numbers of trees. Even cities that have diversified at a low taxonomic level (cultivar or species) may suffer greatly from the depredations of insect pests such as the emerald ash borer that specialize on plants at the generic level. Generalist pests capable of feeding on plants in several families will create problems for urban forests even when attempts have been made to diversify at higher taxonomic levels. Urban foresters should avoid planting susceptible taxa of trees, especially in cities that are overstocked in these taxa, and consider diversifying greatly the types of trees in cities.

For the complete article see *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry* 2006, 32(6) pages 297-304, M. Raupp; A. Buckelew Cumming; E. Raupp 🌳🌳

RESOURCES

UNRI WEBCAST ARCHIVED

Because some people were unable to view the original broadcast of the Forest Service Research Unit Urban Natural Resources Institute (UNRI) Webcast sessions, the presentations were archived and are available for viewing anytime. Some of the more recent Webcast sessions available for viewing or download include *Handheld Computer Technology*; *Emerald Ash Borer, A Status Report*; and *The Living Memorials Project: A Project Update*. To access archived Webcast presentations, go to <http://www.unri.org/webcast/webcastarchives.shtml>.

WEB SITE AVAILABLE FOR VOLUNTEER RATES

This is the official Web site that can be used to establish volunteer rates by the Department of Labor. When choosing a rate, it is best to verify its accuracy with this site. For more information, see <http://www.dol.gov/dol/compliance/comp-dbra.htm>.

NATIONAL FOREST HEALTH MONITORING PROGRAM

Monitoring Urban Forests in Indiana: Pilot Study 2002, Part 1: Analysis of Field Methods and Data Collection

Matt Lake, Phil Marshall, Manfred Mielke, Anne Buckelew Cumming, Dan Twardus. This is available online at <http://www.fhm.fs.fed.us/pubs/ufhm/indianaforests02/indianaforests02.html>.

SPECIES RATING GUIDE PROVIDED BY MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER OF ISA

Developed specifically for the Mid-Atlantic States, this guide provides a baseline for rating species during appraisal of large and small trees. It is to be used in association with the *Guide for Plant Appraisal*. To purchase a copy, go to www.mac-isa.org.

RUBBER SIDEWALKS AND TREE ROOTS

Eighty cities across the U.S. are trying out rubber sidewalks, which offer a more peaceful coexistence between sidewalks and tree roots. As tree roots grow, cement sidewalks often crack from pressure. Rubber sidewalk plates are more elastic, so instead of cracking, they stretch and need to be replaced less often. Studies show that they offer more traction for pedestrians. Additionally, they are made from recycled tires, which reduces the amount in our landfills. The rubber plates are initially more expensive than concrete, but last longer and are much easier and cheaper to fix. For more information, go to http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/243444_ncenter05.html.

STEM GIRDLING ROOTS: THE UNDERGROUND EPIDEMIC KILLING OUR TREES

Written by Gary Johnson of the University of Minnesota and Dennis Fallon of XCEL Energy, this handy 21-page booklet gives a great overview of stem girdling roots, what they are,

tree safety issues associated with them, aboveground symptoms of the problem, inspections, prevention, treatment, and recovery methods. The publication is available at http://fr.cfans.umn.edu/extension/urban_com/StemGirdlingRoots.html.

THE FOREST WHERE WE LIVE: GROWING A LEGACY

This publication is a 24-page, full-color supplement to the *Wisconsin Natural Resources* magazine. This urban forestry advocacy piece features the economic, social, and environmental services provided by community trees. Designed for urban forestry advocates and community policymakers, it features the qualitative and quantitative services that “green” infrastructure provides along with how Wisconsin communities of all sizes are growing their own community forest legacy. For an online version, see www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/UF/Index.htm. From “Wisconsin Urban & Community Forests: A Quarterly newsletter of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Division”

DVD ON HIGHWAY SAFETY AND TREES AVAILABLE FROM FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

A new DVD available from the Federal Highway Administration—*Highway Safety and Trees: the Delicate Balance*—offers sound advice when discussing roadway design. Municipalities and others should look at finding a balance between good engineering judgment and landscape design, particularly when trees come into the equation. The DVD explores the issue of safe placement of trees along our roadsides, stressing that the design of highway projects should be a cooperative effort involving the highway agency, concerned communities, organizations, and individual citizens. To get a copy (FJWA-SA-06-13), send an email to report.center@fhwa.dot.gov.

TRUST FOR PUBLIC LANDS, PARKS, AND PEOPLE INITIATIVE

The Trust for Public Land has launched its Parks for People initiative in the belief that every American child should enjoy convenient access to a nearby park or playground. This white paper outlines how desperate the need is for city parks—especially in inner-city neighborhoods—and describes the social, environmental, economic, and health benefits parks bring to a city and its people. <http://www.smartgrowthonlineaudio.org/np2007/104b.pdf>

ENGAGING UNINVOLVED COMMUNITIES IN URBAN FORESTRY: IT'S ABOUT MORE THAN TREES

Dr. Colleen Carroll developed this CD ROM based on an insightful and informative book about the involvement of minorities and underserved communities in urban and community forestry. Dr. Carroll conducted onsite interviews with nearly 30 groups across the country, resulting in a powerful

look at how these groups build their communities through greening. This work was supported by a grant from the U.S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program at the recommendation of the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council. Contact NatureTalks@gmail.com to obtain copies.

THE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GUIDE

Planners across the Nation are beginning to understand that smart growth is the key to striking a sustainable balance between development and conservation. This handbook builds the case for the value of green infrastructure and provides suggestions about how to integrate green infrastructure planning with planning for development. The application of the green infrastructure concept to growth and development can happen only when people understand and appreciate the value of their ecosystems and are determined to integrate them into their local and regional planning processes. The authors hope that this book advances the understanding of green infrastructure, provides tools to balance growth and preservation of natural systems, and begins to bridge the gap between planning and other professions. <http://www.planningpartners.org/projects/gig/index.html>

LASTING LANDSCAPES: REFLECTIONS ON THE ROLE OF CONSERVATION SCIENCE IN LAND USE PLANNING

This report from The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) brings together nine of the leading thinkers in the land use planning, conservation biology, and conservation policy professions to explore how the field of conservation planning could be further advanced. The thought-provoking essays make it clear that a more intentional approach to conservation planning is needed. http://www.elistore.org/reports_detail.asp?ID=11212

SPANISH TRANSLATIONS FOR THE GREEN INDUSTRY AVAILABLE

Spanish/English translations of common nursery and landscape words and phrases are available as 2- to 5-minute pod casts. There are currently 31 pod casts available, which are being produced by Barbara Kraft of the Virginia Tech Horticulture Department. You can listen to them online or download them as MP3 files. Well worth a listen! http://www.weblogs.cals.vt.edu/spanish_industry/

ISA UPDATES "TREES ARE GOOD" WEB SITE

The International Society of Arboriculture is redesigning its www.treesaregood.com Web site. The new look will feature more photos and illustrations as well as a list of resource links.

CERTIFIED ARBORIST APPLICATIONS ONLINE

The certified arborist application is now available online through the International Society of Arboriculture Web site. The test committee reduced the number of testing domains in the certification testing process from 12 to 10. The number of questions and body of knowledge are still the same. Changes went into effect January 2007. See <https://secure.isa-arbor.com/mbrappl/CertApp.aspx>.

FUELS FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Fuels for Schools program started in the State of Vermont. As a result, more than 25 school buildings have been heated with biomass (wood chips) instead of fossil fuels. The schools have realized a large financial savings by switching to biomass fuel and also stimulated the local economy with increases in jobs and locally produced products. The program has now expanded to six States in the Western U.S. For more information on the Fuels for Schools program, go to <http://www.fuelsforschools.org/>.

MAKING TREE ROOTS VISIBLE

This three-part publication, created by Bonnie Appleton at Virginia Tech, is available for download online from the Urban Forest Ecosystem Institute's Web site at <http://www.ufe.org/atoz.lasso#M>.

ROADSIDE URBAN TREES—BALANCING SAFETY AND COMMUNITY VALUES

Tree crash statistics are often weighed against anecdotal reports of tree benefits in transportation decisionmaking. Discussions of roadside trees are largely framed in terms of aesthetic values, which are not viewed as justification for tree retention or planting when weighed against long-held safety standards. Dr. Kathleen Wolf, a research social scientist in the College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, Seattle, studied urban roads in Texas. She found a decrease in crash rates on 10 urban arterial and highway sites after landscape improvements were installed (Mok et al. 2006). http://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/docs/trb_cd/Files/06-1435.pdf

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION REGISTRY

The California Climate Action Registry is developing urban and community forestry project and certification protocols with a scientific panel led by Greg McPherson. <http://www.theclimateregistry.org/crdocuments.html>

Urban forestry projects are grouped by carbon storage, tree shade, and bioenergy; forest protocols are models for UCF projects. See <http://www.climateregistry.org/protocols/fp/>. 🌳

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

NATIONAL REPORT ON UCF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AVAILABLE SOON

The U.S. Forest Service Washington Office recently completed a review of Forest Service technology transfer in urban and community forestry (UCF). The report, titled “Technology Transfer in the Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, and Northeast,” defines the current state of UCF technology transfer by describing the research and transfer/delivery process, listing key products, identifying gaps in product development and delivery, and presenting strategies for improvement. Technology transfer ensures that urban and community forests are better understood, and that important principles are shared with and used by practitioners, community leaders, local residents, and others.

With increasing population growth and urbanization, UCF programs are now more mission critical than ever, and well positioned to not only help mitigate natural resource issues within urban and suburban areas, but also influence attitudes about all forestry practices. The report and associated research were completed by James Geiger of the Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Staff and will be available online soon.

For more information, contact Jim at jgeiger@fs.fed.us.

I-TREE TRAINING IN MID-ATLANTIC SUCCESSFUL

The Davey Tree Expert Company and Rutgers University partnered with the U.S. Forest Service’s Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry to host i-Tree training at Rutgers University, Cook/Douglass Campus, New Brunswick, NJ, June 12-13, 2007.



A train-the-trainers approach provided participants with the expertise, familiarity, and tools to present, encourage, and manage i-Tree’s use in the communities they serve. During this hands-on workshop, users gained experience working with the software and conducting an i-Tree analysis from start to finish—from inventory to data analysis to reporting results. Presentations demonstrated tools participants can use to better manage urban forests.

i-Tree is a suite of software tools developed to help users, whether municipal foresters or commercial arborists, identify and manage the structure, function, and value of urban tree populations. The i-Tree suite was created by the U.S. Forest Service in cooperation with the Davey Resource Group and the National Arbor Day Foundation. It brings together inventory and assessment tools in a single, free, and supported environment. Users are provided with step-by-step processes for conducting an ecosystem analysis with UFORE (Urban Forest Effects Model) or a street tree analysis with STRATUM (Street Tree Resource Assessment Tool for Urban Forest Managers). Compatible software utilities are included as well: MCTI (Mobile Community Tree Inventory), Storm Damage Assessment Protocol, Tree Inventory PDA Utility, and Sample Inventory Generators. To learn more, visit <http://www.itreetools.org/>.

For more information, contact Donna Murphy at dmmurphy@fs.fed.us.

I-TREE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2007

Jill Johnson of the Forest Service’s Midwest Center for Urban and Community Forestry reports that i-Tree training is proving to be effective. Past participants are now organizing themselves to deliver similar training across the country.

“Understanding i-TREE” is an intense, 1-day course designed to help attendees understand the complete functionality, capabilities, and requirements needed to use and get the most out of each of the individual i-Tree programs in the suite.

Summer training dates are:

- Wednesday, June 6, 2007 – Schaumburg, IL
- Wednesday, June 20, 2007 – Los Angeles, CA
- Wednesday, July 11, 2007 – Atlanta, GA
- Wednesday, July 25, 2007 – Orlando, FL
- Wednesday, August 8, 2007 – Ithaca, NY
- Wednesday, August 15, 2007 – St. Louis, MO
- Wednesday, August 29, 2007 – Schaumburg, IL

For detailed course descriptions and locations see: http://arborvisionsoftware.com/Understanding_itree.html. 🌳👤

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Conferences

June 2007 to November 2007

Also Available Online at:

www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html

2007

June

- 21 **Scaling and Regionalization**
Baltimore Ecosystem Study Quarterly Science Meeting. The topic will be scaling and regionalization.
Location: Baltimore, Maryland
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: Jonathan Walsh
E-mail: walshj@ecostudies.org
- 26 **Restoring Native Ecosystems Seminar**
Penn State Great Valley, seminar approved to PA Landscape Architecture Board-7 credits; Penn-Del Chapter ISA-5 CEU's Arborist and municipal: 2 CEU, BCMA practice and Management: 1CEU BCMA Science" PA Act 48 Teacher Credits-5 credits. More information is available at www.arboday.org/RNE.
Location: Malvern, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Training **Program:** UCF
Info: National Arbor Day Foundation Conference Staff (888)448-7337
Link: <http://www.arboday.org/RNE>
- 26 **Evening Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow Introductory Workshops**
Penn State Cooperative Extension in Crawford County, 13400 Dunham Road, Suite A. The classes serve as a fast-track with longer program series to be offered later to those choosing to take more intensive seminars. Registration Costs are \$15 each or \$25 for both.
Location: Meadville, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Scott Sjolander (814)333-7460
Email: sas305@psu.edu

- 27 **Land Use Planning Workshop Series-Cooperating Across Boundaries**
Purpose: to help provide the tools and strategies needed by municipal officials, community-based conservation organizations and activist citizens, Penn State Cooperative Extension will offer a series of workshops on land use planning. The programs will take place on June 6, 13, and 27 at the Cranberry Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township, PA.

Location: Cranberry Township, PA
Event Type: Training **Program:** UCF
Info: Mark Remcheck (724)228-6940
E-mail: mar15psu.edu

- 28 **MAA Summer Pest Walk**
Location: Frederick, Maryland
Event Type: Event **Program:** UCF
Info: 888-638-7337
Link: www.mdarborist.com

July

- 15 - 17 **Renewal & Remembrance Project at Arlington National Cemeteries**
Renewal & Remembrance at Arlington National and Historic Congressional cemeteries offer you the chance to show your pride and patriotism in our great Nation. Join other member volunteers in dedicating effort and equipment to enhance the beauty of our National cemeteries.
Location: Washington, District of Columbia
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: (800)395-2522
Link: <http://landcarenetwork.org>

28 - **International Society of Arboriculture 83rd Annual Conference & Trade Show**
Aug 1 50% off with Full Conference Registration—must register by July 15th. For a more detailed schedule of events and additional information, visit the conference Web site for updates www.isa-arbor.com/conference.

Location: Honolulu, Hawaii
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Jessica Marx (217)355-9411 x.21
E-mail: jmarx@isa-arbor.com

August

15 - 16 **Invasive Plants: Research, Removal, and Renewal**
Vulnerability of PA's lakes, Dispersal of exotic species by white-tailed deer in Connecticut, Control of mile-a-minute weed, Mid-Atlantic Exotic pest plant council, Regulatory approaches for plants for planting and globalization, Systematics and Taxonomy at USDA, Early detection and distribution mapping system, Applying economic models for invasive species management, and more.

Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Morris Arboretum Education Dept (215)247-5777 ext.15

October

1 - 3 **MAC-ISA Annual Meeting**
This year's Annual Meeting will be held at the Clarion Conference Center. Before the meeting, the annual Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, Sept. 30, to benefit the Tree Fund. The meeting will begin officially with the Field Day on Monday and be followed by two days of educational sessions at the hotel. Additional volunteers are needed to help plan the meeting.

Location: Hagerstown, Maryland
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: (703)753-0499

5 **Celebrating the Past...Planning the Future**
The City of Springfield, MA, the University of MA, and the U.S. Forest Service are hosting a 1-day symposium on Friday, Oct. 5, 2007, that will highlight green space protection and enhancement, as well as sustainable building techniques, using Springfield's success as a regional model for other communities to follow.

Location: Springfield, Massachusetts
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Ellen Weeks (413)545-0895
Email: eweeks@umext.umass.edu
Link: <http://umassgreeninfo.org/programs/conferences.html>

5 - 9 **ASLA 2007 Annual Meeting**
Some of the highlights of this year's exciting lineup include: expert speakers, a closing presentation by former Vice President Al Gore, an ASLA Professional and Student Awards Ceremony, ASLA Honors Dinner.

Location: San Francisco, California
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: www.asla.org/meetings/am2007/Schedule_Glance.html
(888)675-1222
E-mail: www.asla.org

15 - 19 **Strategic Conservation Planning Using a Green Infrastructure Approach**
Green Infrastructure is our Nation's natural life support system—an interconnected network of natural lands and other open spaces that conserves ecosystem values and functions and provides associated benefits to human populations.

Location: Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: Kris Hoellen (304)876-7462
E-mail: khoellen@conservationfund.org

November

14 - 15 **Partners in Community Forestry National Conference**

The National Arbor Day Foundation and the Home Depot Foundation are pleased to announce a unique new National conference that will bring together many individuals and organizations that impact the health of our cities and our Nation's community trees.

Location: Baltimore, Maryland

Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF

Info: National Arbor Day Foundation
Conference Staff (888)448-7337

Link: <http://arborday.org/PCFcall>

The next issue of **Urban Projects** from the Morgantown Field Office will be the end of summer.

Please send articles or events to:

Donna Murphy, Center Coordinator
USDA Forest Service
Mid-Atlantic Center
for Urban and Community Forestry
Keystone College, PO Box 1466
La Plume, PA 18440-1099
or e-mail her at:
dmmurphy@fs.fed.us

Special thanks to Phillip Rodbell for reviewing this issue.